



Lower Granite Dam and Lake Lower Granite

Quick Facts

- ▶ Stream: Snake River (RM 107.5)
- ▶ Location: Pomeroy, WA
- ▶ Owner: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District
- ▶ Authorized Purposes: Hydropower, Navigation (1945 Rivers and Harbors Act)
- ▶ Other Purposes: Fish & Wildlife, Recreation, Water Quality, Irrigation
- ▶ Type of Project: Run-of-River

Dam

- ▶ Completed: 1975
- ▶ Height: 151 ft
- ▶ Length: 3,200 ft
- ▶ Features: powerhouse, spillway, navigation lock, fish passage facilities
- ▶ Forebay Elevation Normal Operating Range: 733–738 ft msl
- ▶ Spillway Capacity (max): 850,000 cfs

Powerhouse

- ▶ Generation Capacity: 810 MW, 6 Units
- ▶ Hydraulic Capacity: 130,000 cfs



Lower Granite Lock and Dam was the fourth of four dams constructed as part of the Lower Snake River Project, authorized in the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1945. Construction began in 1965 and three turbine units were operational in 1975. Three more turbine units were installed and operational in 1979.

Lake Lower Granite extends from the dam upstream for 40 miles to Lewiston, ID. The Corps constructed roughly 8 miles of levees around Lewiston, ID, to help protect lives and property from potentially destructive high water conditions.

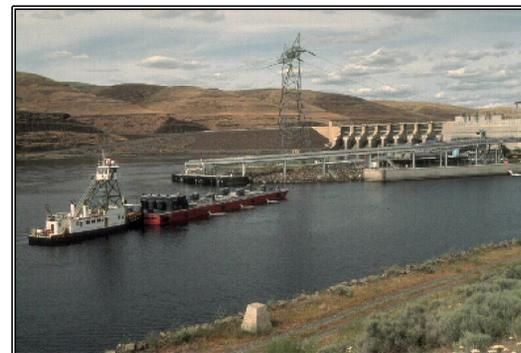
Hydropower

Lower Granite Dam has six 135-megawatt turbines, for a total generating capacity of 810 MW.

Lower Granite Dam, Lower Granite Lake, and associated facilities are operated for Hydropower, Navigation, Fish & Wildlife, Recreation, Water Quality, and Irrigation.

Navigation

Lower Granite Dam navigation lock is the last of eight locks encountered in the Columbia-Snake Inland Waterway, a 465-mile river highway that allows barge transport of commodities between the Pacific Ocean and Lewiston, ID. In 2015, more than 1.1 million tons of commercial commodities passed through the Lower Granite lock.



Recreation

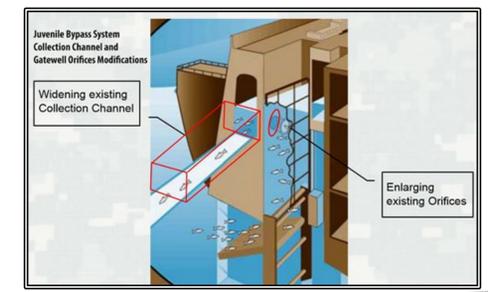
Popular recreation activities around Lower Granite Dam and Lake include fishing, swimming, picnicking, boating, hunting, and camping. There are several day-use areas, campsites, parks, habitat management units, boat launch facilities, and marinas.



Fish & Wildlife

Lower Granite Dam has one fish ladder with entrances on both shores to provide a passage route for upstream-migrating fish, including adult salmon and steelhead, lamprey, shad, and others. Passage routes operated for downstream-migrating fish are the spillway, a spillway weir, and a juvenile bypass system. In 2015, about 2.7 million juvenile salmon and steelhead were collected in the bypass system—of those, roughly 1.5 million were transported downstream by barge or truck and released below Bonneville Dam.

Recent improvements to Lower Granite fish facilities include installation of pumps to draw cooler water from deep in the forebay to cool the adult ladder in the hot summer months, and an ongoing overhaul and upgrade of the juvenile bypass system.



Water Quality

Water quality is monitored and managed consistent with Clean Water Act and state standards for the health of aquatic species. During spill for juvenile fish passage at the four Lower Columbia and four Lower Snake River projects, the Corps implements a Water Quality Program to manage total dissolved gas.